

## Actus Tertius. Scena Prima.

Enter Queen and her Women as at worke.

Queen. Take thy Lute wench,  
My Soule growes sad with troubles,  
Sing, and disperse 'em if thou canst: leaue working:

## SONG.

O Rphens with his Lute made Trees,  
And the Mountaine tops that freeze,  
Bow themselves when he did sing.  
To his Musicks, Plants and Flowers  
Euer sprung; as Sunne and Showers,  
There had made a lasting Spring.  
Every thing that heard him play,  
Euen the Billowes of the Sea,  
Hung their heads, & then lay by.  
In sweet Musicks is such Art,  
Killing care, & griefe of heart,  
Fall asleepe, or hearing dyes.

Enter a Gentleman.

Queen. How now?

Gent. And please your Grace, the two great Cardinals  
Waite in the presence.

Queen. Would they speake with me?

Gent. They will'd me say so Madam.

Queen. Pray their Graces

To come neere: what can be their busines  
With me, a poore weake woman, false from fauour?  
I doe not like their comming; now I thinke on't,  
They should bee good men, their affaires as righteous:  
But all Hoods, make not Monkes.

Enter the two Cardinals, Wolsey & Campian.

Wol. Peace to your Highnesse.

Queen. Your Graces find me heere part of a Houwife,  
(I would be all) against the worst may happen:  
What are your pleasures with me, reuerent Lords?

Wol. May it please you Noble Madam, to withdraw  
Into your private Chamber; we shall giue you  
The full cause of our comming.

Queen. Speake it heere.

There's nothing I haue done yet o' my Conscience  
Deserues a Corner: would all other Women  
Could speake this with as free a Soule as I doe.  
My Lords, I care not (so much I am happy  
About a number) if my actions  
Were tri'd by eu'ry tongue, eu'ry eye saw 'em,  
Envy and base opinion set against 'em,  
I know my life to euen. If your busines  
Secke me out, and that way I am Wife in;  
Out with it boldly: Truth loues open dealing.

Card. Tanta est erga te mentis integritas Regina serenissima.

Queen. O good my Lord, no Latin;  
I am not such a Truant since my comming,  
As not to know the Language I haue liu'd in: (ous:  
A strange Tongue makes my cause more strange, suspiti-  
Pray speake in English; heere are some will thanke you,  
if you speake truth, for their poore Mistis sake;  
Beleeue me she ha's had much wrong. Lord Cardinall,  
The willing'st sinne I euer yet committed,  
May be absolud in English.

Card. Noble Lady,

I am sorry my integrity shoul breed,  
(And seruice to his Maiesty and you)  
So deepe suspition, where all faith was meant;  
We come not by the way of Accusation,  
To taint that honour euery good Tongue blesses;  
Nor to betray you any way to sorrow;  
You haue too much good Lady: But to know  
How you stand minded in the waighy difference  
Betwene the King and you, and to deliuer  
(Like free and honest men) our iust opinions,  
And comforts to our cause.

Camp. Most honour'd Madam,  
My Lord of Yorke, out of his Noble nature,  
Zeale and obedience he still bore your Grace,  
Forgetting (like a good man) your late Censure  
Both of his truth and him (which was too farre)  
Offers, as I doe, in a signe of peace,  
His Seruice, and his Counsell.

Queen. To betray me.

My Lords, I thanke you both for your good wills,  
Ye speake like honest men, (pray God ye proue so)  
But how to make ye sodainly an Answer  
In such a poynt of weight, so neere mine Honour,  
(More neere my Life I feare) with my weake wit,  
And to such men of grauity and learning;  
In truth I know not. I was set at worke,  
Among my Maids, full little (God knowes) looking  
Either for such men, or such businesse;  
For her sake that I haue bene, for I feele  
The last fit of my Greauenesse; good your Graces  
Let me haue time and Counsell for my Cause:  
Alas, I am a Woman friendlesse, hopelesse.

Wol. Madam,

You wrong the Kings loue with these feares,  
Your hopes and friends are infinite.

Queen. In England,

But little for my profit can you thinke Lords,  
That any English man dare giue me Counsell?  
Or be a knowne friend gainst his Highnes pleasure,  
(Though he be growne so desperate to be honest)  
And lue a Subject? Nay forsooth, my Friends,  
They that must weigh out my afflictions,  
They that my trust must grow to, lue not heere,  
They are (as all my other comforts) far hence  
In mine owne Countrey Lords.

Camp. I would your Grace

Would leaue your griefes, and take my Counsell.

Queen. How Sir?

Camp. Put your maine cause into the Kings protection,  
Hee's louing and most gracious. I will be much,  
Both for your Honour better, and your Cause:  
For if the tryall of the Law o'retake ye,  
You'l part away disgrac'd.

Wol. He tels you rightly.

Queen. Ye tell me what ye wish for both, my ruine:  
Is this your Christian Counsell? Out vpon ye.  
Heauen is about all yet; there sits a Iudge.  
That no King can corrupt.

Camp. Your rage mistakes vs.

Queen. The more shame for yesholy men I thought ye,  
Vpon my Soule two reuerend Cardinall Vertues:  
But Cardinall Sins, and hollow hearts I feare ye:  
Mend 'em for shame my Lords: Is this your comfort?  
The Cordiall that ye bring a wretched Lady?  
A woman lost among ye, laugh'd at, scorn'd?  
I will not wish ye halfe my miseries,

I haue more Charity. But say I warn'd ye;  
Take heed, for heauens sake take heed, least at once  
The burthen of my sorrowes, fall vpon ye.

Card. Madam, this is a meere distraction,  
You turne the good we offer, into enny.

Queen. Ye turne me into nothing. Woe vpon ye,  
And all such false Professors. Would you haue me  
(If you haue any iustice, any Pitty,  
If ye be any thing but Churchmens habite)  
Put my sicke cause into his hands, that hates me?  
Alas, ha's banish'd me his Bed already,  
His Loue, too long ago. I am old my Lords,  
And all the Fellowship I hold now with him  
Is onely my Obedience. What can happen  
To me, about this wretchednesse? All your Studies  
Make me a Curse, like this.

Camp. Your feares are worse.

Queen. Haue I liu'd thus long (let me speake my selfe,  
Since Vertue findes no friends) a Wife a true one?  
A Woman (I dare say without Vainglory)  
Neuer yet branded with Suspicion?  
Haue I, with all my full Affections  
Still met the King? Lou'd him next Heau'n? Obey'd him?  
Bin (out of fondnesse) superstitious to him?  
Almost forgot my Prayres to content him?  
And am I thus rewarded? 'Tis not well Lords,  
Bring me a constant woman to her Husband,  
One that ne're dream'd a Ioy, beyond his pleasure;  
And to that Woman (when she has done most)  
Yet will I adde an Honor; a great Patience.

Card. Madam, you wander from the good

We ayme at.

Queen. My Lord,  
I dare not make my selfe so guiltie,  
To giue vp willingly that Noble Title  
Your Master wed me to: nothing but death  
Shall e're diuorce my Dignities.

Card. Pray heare me.

Queen. Would I had neuer trod this English Earth,  
Or felt the Flatteries that grow vpon it:  
Ye haue Angels Faces; but Heauen knowes your hearts.  
What will become of me now, wretched Lady?  
I am the most vnhappy Woman liuing.  
Alas (poore Wenches) where are now your Fortunes?  
Shipwrack'd vpon a Kingdome, where no Pitty,  
No Friends, no Hope, no Kindred weepe for me?  
Almost no Graue allow'd me? Like the Lilly  
That once was Mistis of the Field, and flourish'd,  
He hang my head, and perish.

Card. If your Grace

Could but be brought to know, our Ends are honest,  
You'd feele more comfort. Why shold we (good Lady)  
Vpon what cause wrong you? Alas, our Places,  
The way of our Profession is against it;  
We are to Cure such sorrowes, not to sowe 'em.  
For Goodnesse sake, consider what you do,  
How you may hurt your selfe: I, vtterly  
Grow from the Kings Acquaintance, by this Carriage.  
The hearts of Princes kisse Obedience,  
So much they loue it. But to stubborn Spirits,  
They swell and grow, as terrible as stormes.  
I know you haue a Gentle, Noble temper,  
A Soule as euen as a Calme; Pray thinke vs,  
Those we professe, Peace-makers, Friends, and Seruants.

Camp. Madam, you'l finde it so:  
You wrong your Vertues

With these weake Women  
As yours was, put into ye  
Such doubts as false Coin  
Beware you loose it not:  
To trust vs in your busines  
To vse our vtmost Studie  
Qu. Do what ye will,  
And pray forgiue me;  
If I haue vs'd my selfe vn  
You know I am a Woman  
To make a seemely answ  
Pray do my seruice to his  
He ha's my heart yet, and  
While I shall haue my lif  
Bestow your Councils on  
That little thought when  
She should haue bought it

## Scena

Enter the Duke of Norfolk  
and Lord

Nor. If you will now  
And force them with a C  
Cannot stand vnder the  
The offer of this time, I  
But that you shall sustain  
With these you beare al

Sir. I am ioyfull

To meete the least occasi  
Remembrance of my Fa  
To be reueng'd on him.  
Suf. Which of the Pe  
Haue vncontentm'd gone  
Strangely neglected? W  
The stampe of Noblene  
Out of himselfe?

Cham. My Lords, ye  
What he deserues of yo  
What we can do to him  
Giues way to vs) I much  
Barre his access to th'K  
Any thing on him: for h  
ouer the King in's Tong  
Nor. O feare him not  
His spell in that is out: e  
Matter against him, tha  
The Honoy of his Langua  
(Not to come off) in his

Sir. Sir,

I should be glad to hear  
Once euery houre.  
Nor. Beleeue it, this  
In the Diuorce, his con  
Are all vnfolded: where  
As I would wish mine E

Sir. How came

His practises to light?

Suf. Most strangely.

Sir. O how? how?

Suf. The Cardinals